

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 12811 01 OF 02 261057Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
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P 261025Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
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JCS WASHDC PRIORITY  
CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI PRIORITY  
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI PRIORITY  
CINCPACREPPH SUBIC BAY RP PRIORITY  
13THAF CLARK AB RP PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 MANILA 12811

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

RADM MCCLENDON SENDS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, RP  
SUBJECT: US/RP MILITARY TO MILITARY DISCUSSIONS (U)

1. SENIOR MILITARY REPS MET IN PLENARY SESSION FOR APPROXIMATELY 40 MINUTES THIS MORNING. RP WORKING PAPERS PERTAINING TO SELECTED POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PBC AND USC WERE RECEIVED, AND US PANEL WORKING PAPERS ON SUBIC BAY WATERS AND GRANDE ISLAND WERE PRESENTED TO PHIL SIDE. CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE CONTINUED.

2. THE START OF THE MEETING WAS DELAYED SINCE GEN ESPINO WAS RECEIVING A CALLER. PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING, WE RECEIVED FOUR RP WORKING PAPERS ON THE POWERS  
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PAGE 02 MANILA 12811 01 OF 02 261057Z

AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PBC AND USC PERTAINING TO PORT CONTROL IN SUBIC, AIR TRAFFIC AND AIRPORT CONTROL AT CLARK AND CUBI NAVAL AIR STATION, AND SECURITY AT THE BASES. THE WORKING PAPERS' CONTENTS WERE REMINISCENT OF RP PAPERS RECEIVED DURING 1976 NEGOTIATIONS.

3. UPON GEN ESPINO'S ARRIVAL, THE MEETING COMMENCED AND

U.S. PANEL WORKING PAPERS ON SUBIC BAY WATERS AND GRANDE ISLAND WERE PRESENTED TO THE PHIL SIDE. AFTER A QUICK READ THROUGH GEN ESPINO STATED THAT THE GRANDE ISLAND PAPER LOOKED GOOD TO HIM. AT THAT POINT RADM MCCLENDON EXPLAINED THE STATUS AND BACKGROUND OF THE U.S. PANEL WORKING PAPERS. HE BEGAN BY REITERATING THE U.S. POSITION THAT GRANDE ISLAND, SUBIC WATERSHED, AND A PORTION OF SUBIC BAY WATERS MUST BE INCLUDED WITHIN THE U.S. FACILITY. HE INDICATED THAT THE US PANEL IS WORKING WITH THE PHIL PANEL IN AN ATTEMPT TO REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ON LANGUAGE FOR THOSE THREE AREAS WHICH HIGHER AUTHORITY ON THE U.S. SIDE COULD CONSIDER AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE EXISTING U.S. POSITION. HE NOTED THAT THERE ARE ESSENTIAL POINTS THAT MUST BE AGREED TO BEFORE SUCH AN ALTERNATIVE COULD BE CONSIDERED BY HIGHER AUTHORITY. FINALLY HE STATED THAT WE ARE STILL WORKING ON A U.S. PANEL WORKING PAPER FOR THE SUBIC WATERSHED. GEN ESPINO EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THOSE CANDID COMMENTS AND STATED THAT THE PHIL PANEL WAS ALSO WORKING TOWARD A SIMILAR GOAL AND HAD NOT REFERRED THEIR PAPERS TO HIGHER AUTHORITY.

4. WE THEN ADDRESSED THE 4 RP WORKING PAPERS WHICH WERE RECEIVED TODAY. WE NOTED THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL TIME TO REVIEW THEM IN DEPTH BUT MADE THE FOLLOWING INITIAL COMMENTS:

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PAGE 03 MANILA 12811 01 OF 02 261057Z

- A. WE ARE STRUCK BY THE FACT THAT SOME POINTS EXPRESSED IN THEIR PAPERS ONCE AGAIN RAISE THE ISSUE AS TO WHETHER WE ARE WORKING ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE MBA OR A WHOLE NEW AGREEMENT. WE VIEW OUR TASK AS ADDRESSING CERTAIN ISSUES RELATING TO THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PBC AND USC AND THE DELIMITATION OF THE PHIL BASE AND U.S. FACILITY. WE REALIZE THAT THERE WILL BE SOME CHANGES TO THE EXISTING PROVISIONS OF THE MBA BUT WE SEE NO NEED TO REPEAT WHAT IS ALREADY COVERED BY THE MBA.
- B. TO BE ABSOLUTELY CANDID, WE RECOGNIZE MANY OF THE POINTS IN THE RP PAPERS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE EXPRESSED BY THE PHIL SIDE DURING THE 1976 NEGOTIATIONS, BUT THEY APPEAR TO BE OUTSIDE THE PURVIEW OF THE PRESENT DISCUSSIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT IF THESE NEW POINTS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED, AND OTHERS LIKE THEM, IT WILL MAKE IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE OUR WORK.
- C. SOME OF THE POINTS EXPRESSED IN THE RP

- PAPERS ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE AGREED PRINCIPLE
- THAT U.S. OPERATIONS WILL BE UNHAMPERED.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF OUR INITIAL COMMENTS, GEN ESPINO POINTEDLY COMMENTED THAT THE PAPERS THEY PRESENTED TO US TODAY ARE JUST WORKING PAPERS.

5. WE THEN ADVISED THAT WE WOULD NOT COMMENT TODAY ON THE RP WORKING PAPER OF 24 JULY ON THE ZAMBALES

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PAGE 01 MANILA 12811 02 OF 02 261045Z  
ACTION SS-25

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-----060944 261059Z /17

P 261025Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
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CINCPACREPPH SUBIC BAY RP PRIORITY  
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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 MANILA 12811

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

RADM MCCLENDON SENDS

TRAINING AREA. WE REITERATED THE U.S. POSITION THAT THE SOUTHWEST ZAMBALES TRAINING AREA AND THE IMPACT AREAS MUST BE INCLUDED WITHIN THE BASE AND ADVISED THE PHIL SIDE THAT WE WOULD CONSIDER THESE INTERRELATED AREAS AT THE SAME TIME. GEN ESPINO STATED THAT THEY ARE STILL WORKING ON THEIR PAPER CONCERNING THE SOUTHWEST ZAMBALES TRAINING AREA AND THE IMPACT AREAS.

6. AS THE MEETING CAME TO A CLOSE, GEN ESPINO ADVISED RADM MCCLENDON THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING PRESIDENT MARCOS PRIVATELY TOMORROW AND WILL SEEK GUIDANCE ON THE

AMENDMENT/NEW AGREEMENT ISSUE. FINALLY, IT WAS AGREED  
TO MEET NEXT AT 0900, FRIDAY, 28 JULY AT CAMP AGUINALDO.

MURPHY

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PAGE 02 MANILA 12811 02 OF 02 261045Z

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20 Mar 2014  
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